

1 Michael Gearin, WSBA # 20982
2 David C. Neu, WSBA #33143
3 K&L GATES LLP
4 925 Fourth Avenue, Suite 2900
5 Seattle, WA 98104-1158
6 (206) 623-7580

Honorable Samuel J. Steiner
Chapter 11
Ex Parte

8 UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
9 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

10 In re:

11 MERIDIAN MORTGAGE INVESTORS
12 FUND II, LLC;
13 MERIDIAN MORTGAGE INVESTORS
14 FUND V, LLC;
15 MERIDIAN MORTGAGE INVESTORS
16 FUND VII, LLC;
17 MERIDIAN MORTGAGE INVESTORS
FUND VIII, LLC,

Debtors.

Case No. 10-17952 (Jointly
Administered)

Case Nos: 10-17952; 10-17953; 10-
17958; and 10-17976

DECLARATION OF MICHAEL J.
GEARIN IN SUPPORT OF EX PARTE
APPLICATION FOR ORDER
AUTHORIZING EMPLOYMENT OF
K&L GATES LLP AS ATTORNEYS
FOR TRUSTEE ON AN INTERIM
BASIS

18 I, Michael J. Gearin, declare as follows:

19 1. I am a partner in the law firm of K&L Gates LLP ("K&L Gates") and am duly
20 authorized to practice law in this Court. I submit this declaration in support of the application to
21 employ K&L Gates as counsel of Mark Calvert, the duly appointed Chapter 11 Trustee.

22 2. K&L Gates has been asked to represent the Trustee in this case. K&L Gates and its
23 partners and associates are not creditors, equity security holders or insiders of the Debtors. I have
24 caused a review of the firms' computerized conflicts data base to be conducted for relationships
25 between the firm and the Debtors, their principal, and all petitioning creditors and all creditors
26

DECLARATION IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION FOR
ORDER AUTHORIZING EMPLOYMENT OF K&L GATES
LLP AS ATTORNEYS FOR THE TRUSTEE - 1
I:\Bankruptcy\Dec in Support Employ.doc

K&L GATES LLP
925 FOURTH AVENUE, SUITE 2900
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98104-1158
TELEPHONE: (206) 623-7580
FACSIMILE: (206) 623-7022

1 appearing in the case to date. Based upon my review of the computerized conflicts data on file at
2 K&L Gates, and to the best of my knowledge, K&L Gates does not have an interest adverse to the
3 Debtors, to any class of creditors, or to any equity security holders. K&L Gates does not, to the best
4 of my knowledge, have any relationship with the United States Trustee or any person employed by
5 the United States Trustee.

6 3. The following are likely to render the majority of legal services to the Trustee:

<u>Attorney</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
Michael Gearin	\$425.00
David Neu	\$335.00
Kjrsten Swan Paralegal	\$150.00

10 Other attorneys and professionals will provide services to the estate at hourly rates ranging from \$75
11 to \$600 per hour, subject to adjustments to reflect economic and other conditions, including
12 increases in experience and expertise of members of the firm.

14 4. I certify that I am familiar with Local Rule 2016, governing applications for
15 compensation of professionals.

16 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the
17 foregoing is true and correct.

18 DATED this 22nd day of July, 2010.

19 /s/ Michael J. Gearin
20 Michael J. Gearin